

# Let's Get Acquainted



**The Bruce Summerhays Family**

*Thurs 3-11-83*

by Ruby M. Compton

Bruce P. Summerhays was the first born of a family of three boys born to Preston L. and Margaret Patton Summerhays. Bruce was born on Feb. 14, 1944, in St. Louis, Missouri. His father was in the army at the time and stationed in that area. Preston L. was from Salt Lake City, and his wife, Margaret was from Virginia. After his honorable discharge from the army, Preston brought his family back to Salt Lake City where they made a home and found a good life ahead of him.

While a student at Highland High School, Bruce was very active in football, basketball and golf. His high school "Sweet-heart" was Carolyn Merrell, this relationship continued on into their college years when they were married on Aug. 29, 1964, in a civil ceremony, a year later their marriage was solemnized in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Carolyn was born in Brigham City, Utah, on May 29, 1944. Her family lived in Salt Lake City, but her mother liked to have her babies in Brigham City where she could be near her family. Carolyn was the third of five children born to Elliott H. and Doris Jensen Merrell.

were exciting experiences!

Rather than going in for the professional golfers circuit, Bruce opted to become a golf pro and teach the game in an area of his own choosing, one where he could settle down and raise his children in the manner he felt would be best for them.

Bruce and Carolyn wanted to return to Utah where they would be closer to their families, and when they learned that there was an opening for a pro-golfer to head up the staff at Wasatch Mountain Park in Midway, Utah, Bruce placed his application and was accepted. They left Stanford University and moved to Heber City, Utah, three years ago.

They are happy here in Heber Valley. Bruce said that he is looking forward to the time when more of the local people participate in golfing. To help promote more interest in this fine sport, he and his assistant golf coach, Charlie Ortiga, are planning to start coaching a Wasatch golf team. Presently, he is coaching a Little League basketball team.

Bruce has been involved with church work since his baptism at age 17. He has taught youth groups; Sunday School, served as





# ate Facts

underassessments can reduce property-tax bases so much that local municipalities cannot possible maintain vital community services," the article concluded.

The Wasatch County Board of Realtors believes that citizens should encourage local government leaders

develop tax relief programs which are cost effective and don't erode the local tax base. It's every citizen's responsibility to carefully examine property-tax practices and laws in his community to determine if the services funded by the taxes benefit the property.





Doris' father, Anton Jensen, and an older brother joined the LDS Church and came to the U.S.A. when Anton was ten or eleven years old. The two boys worked their way across the United States so they could be with the members of the LDS Church. They settled in Brigham City, Utah, where most of their families continue to live.

Elliott Merrell's family had been staunch church members of the LDS Church even before they witnessed Brigham Young assume leadership of their church. So there was no thought of refusing the call to fill a mission when Elliott was asked to go to England, even though he was married and the parent of a little girl. The wife and child were left in the care of his parents for two years, or until he returned home.

To get back to Carolyn and Bruce Summerhays, Bruce was not a member of the LDS Church until he joined and was baptized at the age of 17.

Both Carolyn and Bruce graduated from Highland High School in 1962. Both of them enrolled at the University of Utah where Carolyn majored in English, French and American History. While in college, Bruce majored in Physical Education. He played football, basketball, and golf. He was on the All American Golf Team where the team didn't always win, but Bruce won individually.

Bruce and Carolyn were married two years before they left the University in 1966 to go to Daly City, in the vicinity of San Francisco, Ca., where he was offered a position at the Olympic Club, a famous Golf Club. He worked there for seven years.

In 1976, Bruce went to Stanford University where he was their golf coach. The high-light of those years was that he was chosen to be a member of the Ryder Cup Team.

This team consists of the eight best young men golfers in the United States who enter a golfing contest against the eight best golfers that England has to offer. They play one year in the U.S.A. and the next in England. Those

Counselor on two Bishoprics while living in Calif.; taught early LDS Seminary from 5:30 to 6:00 a.m. and there were many very dedicated young folks who attended those classes. He is now teaching the 9th Ward Primary Blazers B. class age 11 and finds satisfaction in working with this age group.

Carolyn has taught Primary; Sunday School; and has been a Den Mother; she has served in her Stake Relief Society for seven years. Presently, she is on the Wasatch High School Parent Council, and is Editor on the J. R. Smith Elementary School P.T.A.

Bruce and Carolyn have a nice family, all are active in church and school programming. Shelly is 17 and is head cheer leader and an honor student, she is a member of "The Sound Investment" chorus at the Wasatch High School, she enjoys acting in the school plays, she has gone to Girl State, and belongs to the cross-country running team.

Bryan is 15, a freshman at Wasatch High, belongs to the cross-country running team, plays saxophone in the band, and earns good grades.

Joseph is 11, attends J. R. Smith Elementary, he is "Out-standing Golfer" for his age, in Utah. He plays the piano and belongs to the Wasatch Childrens Chorus.

William is 10, he attends the J. R. Smith Elementary School, he plays the piano and belongs to the Wasatch Childrens Chorus.

Rachel is eight, she belongs to the chorus too, and is a student at the J. R. Smith school, she plays the piano and dances, also she does very well with her sewing.

Susanna is 6½, attends school at J. R. Smith Elementary, she dances and sings, and is looking forward to starting her piano lessons.

Bruce, Jr. is five and likes all kinds of boy things.

Carrie is two and is an active, lovely little girl.

The Summerhays family is certainly a nice addition to our town and has added much to our community.



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